PROPOSAL

FOR

Improving Trade,

Relieving Families, Sick or Lame,

And Supporting such as cannot Pay their

DEBTS,

Or may become Destitute by the

Death of Friends.

Entered in the Hall-Book of the Company of Stationers.

LONDON: Printed for the Author, 1711.

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18

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A Proposal for Improving Trade,

Relieving Families, Sick or Lame, and Supporting such as cannot pay their Debts, or may become Destitute by the Death of Friends.

I. BY Composing Four Societies (to enable Persons to Set up and Improve their Trades) each consisting of 6300 Persons, dwelling in any Part of *Great-Britain*; who by paying Five Shillings, or Half a Crown each, for Policy and Entrance, and Ten Shillings, or Five Shillings, or Half a Crown, or One Shilling each, at this Office, the first Day of every Month succeeding the Date of their Policies (or within Six Days after) until the Day after Notification at this Office (by Affidavit or Solemn Affirmation before a Master in Chancery, or Justice of the Peace, if required) that the Person Insured upon hath taken a Shop, or House, or Warehouse, in some City or Market-Town, scituate within *Great-Britain*, and exerciseth a Trade or Business therein for his or her own Benefit (if it appear that his or her Policy was Dated three Kalendar Months before such Notification, and that he or she have paid three Monthly payments, shall be Intitled to 300 *l.* or 750 *l.* or 1500 *l.* or 3000 *l.* Sterling, or a Dividend thereof (according to the Society he or she is a Member of) if the same be full; but if not, to a Sum or Dividend thereof, in proportion to the Number and Continuance of the Claimants, and the quantity of Insurance-Money received in this Office, upon Account of that Society and Month wherein such Claim shall happen (except a deduction of Five *per Cent.* and conformity to the General Rules herein after expres'd, payable the twentieth Day of the Month next following.

For Improving Trade, by enabling Persons to Set up.

II. By Composing Four other Societies (for the Relief of Families, Sick or Lame) each consisting of the same Number of Persons (dwelling as) aforesaid; who by paying either of the aforesaid Sums for Policy and Entrance, and Monthly payments, in Time and Place aforesaid, until the Day after Notification at this Office, as aforesaid, That some Person (Infants in the Womb Born alive included) who at the time of Entrance in these Societies was dwelling in the House Insur'd upon, or as an Apprentice, or Servant Hired by the Year only, hath since in seeming Health come to dwell in the said House, and been surprized with a Violent Feaver, or the Small

For Relief of Families Sick or Lame.

All the Persons in one House Insured upon.

Pox, or hath broken or loſt the Uſe of either Leg, or Arm, or Eye ſhall be Intitled to one of the Sums aforeſaid (according to the Society he or ſhe is a Member of) or a Dividend thereof, in proportion aforeſaid (except as aforeſaid) payable as aforeſaid. But the Perſon Claimed upon muſt continue in ſeeming Health Six Weeks after the Date of the Inſurers Policy, or his or her admittance into the Houſe Inſur'd upon in theſe Societies.

For Relief of ſuch as cannot pay their Debts.

III. By Compoſing Four other Societies (for Relieving the Perſons and Families of ſuch as cannot pay their Debts) each conſiſting of the ſame Number of Perſons (dwelling as) aforeſaid; who by paying either of the aforeſaid Sums for Policy and Entrance, and Monthly payments in Time and Place aforeſaid, until the Day after Notification at this Office, as aforeſaid, That the Perſon Inſur'd upon hath been confin'd three Weeks in Priſon (or been oblig'd to Abſcond) for Debt *Bona Fide* due, becauſe unable to pay, ſhall be Intitled to one of the Sums aforeſaid (according to the Society he or ſhe is a *M*ember of) or a Dividend thereof in proportion aforeſaid, Payable as aforeſaid to the Perſon Inſuring, or his or her (Husband, Wife, or) Children, but not to any Creditor, Executor, Adminiſtrator, or Aſſignee.

The Keeper of the Books of theſe Societies hath Sworn that no Motive ſhall induce him to diſcover the Name of any Perſon Inſur'd upon in any of theſe Societies, until his or her Claim be made.

For Relief of ſuch as may become Deſtitute by the Death of Friends.

IV. By Compoſing Four other Societies for Relief of ſuch as may become deſtitute by the Death of Friends, conſiſting of the ſame Number of Perſons (dwelling as) aforeſaid; who by paying either of the aforeſaid Sums for Policy and Entrance, and Monthly payments, in Time and Place aforeſaid, until the Day after Notification at this Office as aforeſaid, That ſome Perſon dwelling in either of the Two Houſes named by the Perſon Inſuring, at the time of Entrance in theſe Societies (Infants Born after Entrance included) was living Six Weeks after the Date of the Inſurers Policy, and is ſince Dead, ſhall be Intitled to one of the Sums aforeſaid (according to the Society he or ſhe is a Member of) or a Dividend thereof, in proportion aforeſaid (except as aforeſaid) payable at the time aforeſaid.

All the Perſons in two Houſes Inſured upon.

For Suppreſſing Swearing in Converſation.

V. By Compoſing Four other Societies (for Suppreſſing Swearing in Converſation) conſiſting of the ſame Number of Perſons (dwelling as) aforeſaid; who by paying either of the aforeſaid Sums for Policy and Entrance, and Monthly payments, in Time and Place aforeſaid, until the Day after Notification at this Office, as aforeſaid, That the Perſons Inſuring, and Inſured upon, are both living, if it appear that his or her Policy was Dated three Kalendar Months before ſuch Notification, and that he or ſhe have paid three Monthly payments, ſhall be Intitled to one of the Sums aforeſaid (according to the Society he or ſhe is a Member of) or a Dividend thereof in proportion aforeſaid (except as aforeſaid) payable at the time aforeſaid. But if

Upon Life.

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the Perſon Inſuring refuſe to make Affidavit or Solemn Affirmation before ſuch Magiſtrate as aforeſaid, That to his or her beſt Remembrance, he or ſhe hath not Sworn ten times in any one Month ſince his or her Entrance in theſe Societies (except before a Magiſtrate) ſuch Perſon ſhall ſuffer a deduction of ten *per Cent.* more than aforeſaid, out of his or her Claim.

VI. By Compoſing Four other Societies (for the Benefit of ſuch as have many Children) conſiſting of the ſame Number of Perſons (dwelling as) aforeſaid; who by paying either of the aforeſaid Sums for Policy and Entrance, and Monthly payments, in Time and Place aforeſaid, until the Day after Notification at this Office, as aforeſaid, That the Perſou Inſur'd upon is recover'd from the Pain and Peril of Child-bearing; if it appear that the Inſurers Policy was Dated Three Kalendar Months before ſuch Notification, and that ſuch Inſurer have paid three Monthly payments, ſuch Inſurer ſhall be Intitled to one of the Sums aforeſaid (according to the Society he or ſhe is a Member of) or a Dividend thereof, in proportion aforeſaid (except as aforeſaid) payable at the time aforeſaid. For the Benefit of ſuch as have many Children.

I. The firſt Thouſand Inſurers in each of the aforeſaid Societies (except thoſe propoſed in the firſt, fifth, and ſixth Articles, who Claim not until three Months) may Claim at any time after ſix Weeks from the Date of their Policies, having paid two Monthly payments. And the ſecond Thouſand Inſurers at Nine Weeks, having paid four Monthly payments, and all the reſt not until three Kalendar Months, having paid ſix Monthly payments, which payments advanc'd beforehand ſhall be accepted for the next ſucceeding Months, and divided among the Claimants therein. General Rules. At what time the Inſurers may Claim.

II. Every Claimant in any of theſe Societies ſhall have liberty to view the Receipt-Book of that Society he or ſhe is a Member of, and be ſatisfied by Affidavit before a Maſter in Chancery, at his or her Coſt, that all the Money received upon Account of his or her Claim is entered in ſuch Book; and upon receiving his or her Claim ſhall ſuffer two Monthly payments to be deducted out of each Claim for the uſes hereafter expreſſed, and ſhall re-enter in ſuch Societies as he or ſhe hath Claimed in, and be allowed one Month after (for Three Pence) to Name the Perſon or Perſous, Houſe or Houſes he or ſhe will Inſure upon: But if any Inſurer fail notifying at this Office his or her Right to Claim above twenty Days after the occaſional Cauſe thereof ſhall happen (that enquiry may be made into the Truth thereof) or fail paying his or her Monthly proportion of Inſurance-Money in Time and Place aforeſaid, until his or her Claim be made, as aforeſaid, ſuch Inſurer ſhall forfeit all Prior payments to the Society he or ſhe is a Member of, and his or her Inſurance and Policy ſhall be thenceforth Null and Void. Privileges to be had, and Rules to be obſerved.

III. The Sums ariſing in each Society aforeſaid, before Capacity of Claiming, and the Money paid by the Members of any Society for ſuch

Month

Month wherein no Claim shall happen after Capacity of Claiming, and the mulct of ten *per Cent.* for Swearing in Conversation, and the two monthly payments to be left upon receiving each Claim (except ten *per Cent* to the Proposer) and a Deduction of ten *per Cent* out of all Claims in each Month and Socieiy, wherein the number of Claimants shall not exceed six, and of five *per Cent*; how many soever shall be divided within ten days after the first day of the Months of *February*, *May*, *August*, and *November*, successively among such as have Contributed six Months, and not Claimed in such proportion, that he or she who hath Contributed twelve Months shall receive as much more than he or she who hath Contributed but six Months, (which proportion shall be observed in all Dividends relating to these Societies) And each Claimant in these Quarterly Dividends, shall have a Certificate how much his or her Share amounteth to, but the whole Sum shall immediately become a Fund, for improving the Fishery of *Great-Britain*, under the Direction and Government of the Majority of Eleven Managers, Natives of *Great-Britain*, who shall Swear to use their best endeavour for improving the common Stock in the said Fishery; and shall have Power to appoint a Treasurer, and to Receive, and give Security, Audit Accounts, Issue Orders, Buy and Sell, Employ and Discharge, Pay and Receive, and do and suffer all lawful Acts whatsoever, for the well Governing the Society of Proprietors of Stock (hereby intended). And for Improving the said Trade and Common-Stock, of which Number, the Proposer hereof, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, shall always be One, and the other Ten shall be Chosen Yearly, (or oftener if needful) by a Majority of the Proprietors, and the clear Gain shall be divided Yearly (beginning at *Candlemas*, 1712.) among the Proprietors, in proportion to their Shares in Stock, except five *per Cent.* to the Proposer, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns.

The Advantage of continuance in these Societies.

The Fishery will employ multitudes, and be a great Improvement to Trade.

IV. Immediately after the Death of any Member of any of these Societies, and of any Proprietor in the hereby proposed Joint-Stock for improving the Fishery of *Great-Britain*, one Moiety or equal half-part of all his or her Right, Title, Interest, Property, and Privilege whatsoever, of, in, and to all and every part of the Stock, Share, Claim, Dividend, and Advantage whatsoever, in any Society or Joint-Stock aforesaid, to him or her belonging, or in any wise appertaining shall devolve upon, be vested in, immediately become, and perpetually continue the Right, Title, Interest, Stock, Share, Claim, Dividend, Property and Advantage of the Proposer hereof, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, and the other Moiety, or equal half-Part, shall at the same time, and in as ample manner Devolve upon, be Vested in, and become the Right, Title, Interest, Property, and Advantage of that Society he or she was a Member of, toward the said Quarterly Dividends, and of the Proprietors of Stock, toward yearly Dividends; so that one half of the Right, Title, and Interest of the Deceased in any Society, may remain

Survivorship great Advantage.

to

to the Society, and one half of his or her Right and Intereſt in Stock, to the Proprietors of Stock.

But any Perſon during Life, may Sell, Give, or Bequeath to whom he or ſhe ſhall think fit, his or her Share of Stock, or Right to Claim, a Transfer thereof being ſigned by the Vendor or Donor in the Books of the Society he or ſhe is a Member of, and not otherwiſe: So that great Gain will ariſe to ſuch as ſhall not happen to Claim in a ſhort time, by Quarterly or Yearly Dividends and Survivorſhip.

V. By virtue of theſe Societies, a very profitable Trade may be Raiſed, Multitudes Employed, and great Gain obtained; for here is no need of Ploughing, Sowing, or paying Rent, only Reaping is Neceſſary; (that is, Catching, and Curing the Fiſh, and carrying them to the Market) and Conſumptive, Sick, and Aged Perſons, and even the Calamities of Sickneſs, loſs of Limbs and Eyes, and miſery of Inſolvence, may be Inſtruments of Support to the Sufferer, and highly Beneficial to his Relations and Neighbours. For any Perſon may Inſure, and for Twelve Pence a Month be Intitled to three Hundred Pounds Sterling at leaſt, or a Dividend thereof; and by Advancing, as in the Margin, may obtain ſo great a Sum as Three Thouſand Pounds Sterling; beſides having a Share of Stock, worth Three Thouſand Pounds Sterling more; with many other Contingent Advantages, which will doubtleſs be very Great. But ſuch only as Enter before the firſt of *Auguſt* next can Claim a Share in the firſt Quarterly and Yearly Dividend of Gain.

By Paying	s. d.	Each Month	l.	May be gotten
	10-0		3000	
	5-0		1500	
	2-6		750	
	1-0		300	

Priority of Entrance ſhall have Priority of Payment, for which there is Land Security.

VI. The Propoſers Intereſt herein is confirmed by Royal Authority, expreſly forbiding all Perſons at their Peril (for no Protection will be allowed in this Caſe) to Print or Publiſh theſe matters without his Conſent, during the Term of Fourteen Years from the Ninth of *April*, 1711.

Dated at the Land-Security-Office *of* Inſurance, *by the* Duke of Marlborough's Head, *turning from* Ludgate-Hill *to* Bridewell-Bridge, *the* 28*th Day of* June, 1711. *where theſe Propoſals and Policies for admitting into theſe Societies may be had, and where all Payments relating hereunto are to be made.*

to the Society, and one half of his or her Right and Interest in Stock, to the Proprietors of Stock.

But any Perſon during Life, may Sell, Give, or Bequeath to whom he or the ſhall think fit, his or her Share of Stock, or Right to Claim, a Transfer thereof being ſigned by the Vendor or Donor in the Books of the Society, he or ſhe is a Member of, and not otherwiſe: So that great Gain will ariſe to ſuch as ſhall not happen to Claim in a ſhort time, by Quarterly or Yearly Dividends and Survivorſhip.

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Value	l. s. d.
	10-0
	5-0
	2-6
	1-0

Purchaſe	l.
	3000
	1500
	750
	300

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